chimeric gene in an agrobacterium tumefaciens Ti plasmid or an agrobacterium rhizogenes Ri plasmid will be distinguished. Those skilled in the art will choose the suitable method depending on the nature of the plant cell or of the plant to be transformed. Mention will in particular be made of the following Patents and Patent Applications: US 4,459,355, US 4,536,475, US 5,464,763, US 5,177,010, US 5,187,073, EP 267,159, EP 604 662, EP 672 752, US 4,945,050, US 5,036,006, US 5,100,792, US 5,371,014, US 5,478,744, US 5,179,022, US 5,565,346, US 5,484,956, US 5,508,468, US 5,538,877, US 5,554,798, US 5,489,520, US 5,510,318, US 5,204,253, US 5,405,765, EP 442 174, EP 486 233, EP 486 234, EP 539 563, EP 674 725, WO 91/02071 and WO 95/06128.

Page 3, delete the fourth paragraph (lines 23-30) and insert:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention consists in improving such a use in such a way as to facilitate the process for identifying and selecting the transformed cells. A second object of the present invention consists in decreasing the time required for selecting the transformed plants and for producing fertile regenerated plants. Specifically, the general process for transforming, selecting, regenerating and recovering the seeds of fertile transformed plants may take several months depending on the plants under consideration, about 10 to 18 months in particular for plants such as soya bean. Decreasing this duration by one or more months constitutes a definite technological and economical advantage.

Page 4, between lines 24 and 25 insert:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 shows maps of the plasmids pCH 73 and pCH 94.

Figure 2 shows results of the choice of medium (D20 and FNL) on decreasing the time needed for the production of calluses of competent cells and green calluses selected after bombardment.

Page 4, delete the fourth paragraph (lines 24-27) and insert:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The plant cells according to the invention may be plant cells from monocotyledonous or dicotyledonous plants, more particularly crop plants which may or may not be intended for animal or human food, preferably dicotyledonous plants, in particular tobacco, rapeseed, sugarbeet, potatoes, cotton or soya bean, preferably soya bean.

Page 14, delete the third full paragraph (lines 7-13) and insert:

In order to avoid handling tissues and to gain time, the bombarded calluses are placed on sterile gauze screen fixed with two metal rings which enable direct contact between the embryogenic tissues and the solid medium. The gauze screens are transferred onto fresh media every 15 days until green calluses are observed. It is understood that the principle of callus transfer described above is not limited to soya bean calluses and to selection with hygromycin, but may be used for any method for culturing tissues and cells suspensions which requires frequent changing of culture medium.

Page 15, delete the third paragraph (lines 9-17) and insert:

10 to 15 days prior to the bombardment, the isoxaflutole or the diketonitriles are introduced into the D20 medium, at the abovementioned concentrations, so as to bleach the tissues. After bombardment, the tissues are placed directly in the same D20 medium comprising 2 mg/ml of isoxaflutole or diketonitrile (between 0.5 and 5 mg/l) and transferred into fresh medium every 15 days. After 4 transfers onto the isoxaflutole, green calluses are identified and amplified as described in Example 1. The time required for producing calluses of cells which are competent for the bombardment is 3 and a half months. The selection of the transformed cells (green calluses) occurs approximately 6 months after the initiation of the calluses for the transformation.

Page 16, delete the seventh paragraph (lines 25-28) and insert:

The time required for producing calluses from cells which are competent for the bombardment is 2 months, the transformed green calluses being selected approximately 3 months after the initiation of the calluses for transformation.